<u>REMARKS</u>

Further examination of the subject patent application in light of the present Preliminary

Amendment and Remarks is respectfully requested. The specification has been amended to correct a

typographical error. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this preliminary amendment prior to action on the

merits, and requests early allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner be of the opinion

that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is

respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required

for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit

any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith,

as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or

even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit

Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By

Eric D. Cohen

Registration No. 38,110

September 21, 2004

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

120 South Riverside Plaza

22nd Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60606

(312) 655-1500

-3-